# IN THE UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

| In re:                    | § | Chapter 11              |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------|
|                           | § |                         |
| W.R. GRACE & CO., et al., | § | Jointly Administered    |
|                           | § | Case No. 01-01139 (KJC) |
| Debtors.                  | § |                         |
|                           | § |                         |

FEE AUDITOR'S FINAL REPORT REGARDING APPLICATION OF DIES AND HILE, LLP, FOR FINAL APPROVAL AND ALLOWANCE OF COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES AS SPECIAL COUNSEL TO THE OFFICIAL COMMITTEE OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIMANTS

This is the final report of Warren H. Smith & Associates, P.C., acting in its capacity as fee auditor in the above-captioned bankruptcy proceedings, regarding the <u>Application of Dies and Hile</u>, <u>LLP</u>, for Final Approval and Allowance of Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Expenses as Special Counsel to the Official Committee of Property Damage Claimants (the "Application").

#### **BACKGROUND**

1. Dies and Hile, LLP ("Dies and Hile"), was retained as special counsel to the Official Committee of Asbestos Property Damage Claimants. In the Application, Dies and Hile seeks final

approval of fees totaling \$194,130.00<sup>1</sup> and expenses totaling \$110,990.13<sup>2</sup> for its services from September 26, 2005 through September 30, 2006 (the "Final Application Period").

2. In conducting this audit and reaching the conclusions and recommendations contained herein, we reviewed in detail the Application in its entirety, including each of the time and expense entries included in the exhibits to the Application, for compliance with 11 U.S.C. § 330, Local Rule 2016-2 of the Local Rules of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, Amended Effective February 1, 2014, and the United States Trustee Guidelines for Reviewing Applications for Compensation and Reimbursement of Expenses Filed Under 11 U.S.C. §330, Issued January 30, 1996 (the "U.S. Trustee Guidelines"), as well as for consistency with precedent established in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware, the United States District Court for the District of Delaware, and the Third Circuit Court of Appeals. We have no issues with, or objections to, the Application, and thus we did not send an initial report to Dies and Hile.

#### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Prior Interim Application**

3. We note that we previously filed the following final report for Dies and Hile's prior

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>We note that the total of the fees requested in Dies and Hile's prior fee application is \$194,130.00. The Court ordered no reductions for the prior period, which period is discussed in more detail in paragraph 3, and thus Dies and Hile has deducted no sums from this amount to arrive at the figure it seeks of \$194,130.00. We note that the Court has ruled on the First through Fifty-First Interim Periods, but no ruling has been made on the Fifty-Second Interim Period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>We note that the total of the expenses requested in Dies and Hile's prior fee application is \$110,990.13. The Court ordered no reductions for the prior period, which period is discussed in more detail in paragraph 3, and thus Dies and Hile has deducted no sums from this amount to arrive at the figure it seeks of \$110,990.13. We note that the Court has ruled on the First through Fifty-First Interim Periods, but no ruling has been made on the Fifty-Second Interim Period.

interim application, which final report we incorporate by reference herein, and we also note the following order that ruled on Dies and Hile's prior interim fee application:

Period: Fee Auditor's Combined Final Report Regarding Those Fee Applications with No Fee or Expense Issues for the Twenty-Second Interim Period (Docket #14868), filed on or about March 15, 2007, in which we recommended approval of fees totaling \$194,130.00 and expenses totaling \$110,990.13. These recommendations were adopted in the Order Approving Quarterly Fee Applications for the Twenty-Second Period, dated May 3, 2007 (Docket #15494).

4. We have reviewed the final report and order allowing fees and expenses for the prior interim period, and we do not believe there is any reason to change any of the amounts awarded for the prior interim period.

#### CONCLUSION

5. Thus, we recommend final approval of \$194,130.00<sup>3</sup> in fees and \$110,990.13<sup>4</sup> in expenses for Dies and Hile's services for the Final Application Period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>We note that the total of the fees requested in Dies and Hile's prior fee application is \$194,130.00. The Court ordered no reductions for the prior period, which period is discussed in more detail in paragraph 3, and thus Dies and Hile has deducted no sums from this amount to arrive at the figure it seeks of \$194,130.00. We note that the Court has ruled on the First through Fifty-First Interim Periods, but no ruling has been made on the Fifty-Second Interim Period.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>We note that the total of the expenses requested in Dies and Hile's prior fee application is \$110,990.13. The Court ordered no reductions for the prior period, which period is discussed in more detail in paragraph 3, and thus Dies and Hile has deducted no sums from this amount to arrive at the figure it seeks of \$110,990.13. We note that the Court has ruled on the First through Fifty-First Interim Periods, but no ruling has been made on the Fifty-Second Interim Period.

Case 01-01139-AMC Doc 32347 Filed 07/28/14 Page 4 of 5

Respectfully submitted,

WARREN H. SMITH & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Bv<sup>-</sup>

Warren H. Smith Texas State Bar No. 18757050

Q-45th

2235 Ridge Road, Suite 105 Rockwall, Texas 75087 214-698-3868 214-722-0081 (fax) whsmith@whsmithlaw.com

**FEE AUDITOR** 

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing document has been served by First Class United States mail to the attached service list on this 29th day of July, 2014.

Warren H. Smith

Q-HSH

#### **SERVICE LIST**

#### **Notice Parties**

#### **Applicant's Counsel**

Scott L. Baena Jay Sakalo Bilzin, Sumberg, Baena, Price & Axelrod 1450 Brickell Avenue, Suite 2300 Miami, FL 33131

#### The Debtors

Richard Finke Assistant General Counsel W.R. Grace & Co. 7500 Grace Drive Columbia, MD 21044

#### **United States Trustee**

Richard Schepacarter Office of the United States Trustee 844 King Street, Lockbox 35, Room 2207 Wilmington, DE 19801

#### **Counsel for the Debtors**

John Donley Adam Paul Kirkland & Ellis LLP 300 North LaSalle Street Chicago, IL 60654

Laura Davis Jones, Esq. James E. O'Neill Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones LLP 919 North Market Street, 17th Floor P.O. Box 8705 Wilmington, DE 19899-8705

# **Counsel to the Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors**

Denise Wildes Stroock & Stroock & Lavan 180 Maiden Lane New York, NY 10038-4982

Michael R. Lastowski Duane Morris LLP 222 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1600 Wilmington, DE 19801

### FEE AUDITOR'S FINAL REPORT - Page 5

wrg FR Dies.wpd

### Co-Counsel to the Official Committee of

#### **Property Damage Claimants**

Michael B. Joseph Theodore J. Tacconelli Lisa Coggins Ferry & Joseph, P.A. 824 Market Street, Suite 904 Wilmington, DE 19801

## Counsel to the Official Committee of Personal

Injury Claimants
Elihu Inselbuch

Rita Tobin
Caplin & Drysdale
600 Lexington Avenue, 21st Floor
New York, NY 10022-6000

Marla R. Eskin Mark Hurford Kathleen Campbell Davis Campbell & Levine, LLC 222 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1620 Wilmington, DE 19801

## Counsel to the Official Committee of Equity

Holders
Philip Bentley

David E. Blabey, Jr.

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel 1177 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036

Teresa K.D. Currier Saul Ewing LLP 222 Delaware Avenue P.O. Box 1266 Wilmington, DE 19899